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4 February 1964

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN



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DAILY BRIEF

*Cyprus: [Formal rejection by the Greek Cypriots of the Anglo-American proposal to send troops to Cyprus will probably be presented to the US and Britain today or tomorrow]

[President Makarios, in a conversation with US Ambassador Wilkins on 3 February, stated that his government had formulated some views but had not yet reached a definitive decision. He indicated that the answer would be presented on 4 or 5 February. The departure of Foreign Minister Kyprianou for London indicates that the final decision has all but been made]

[Kyprianou's comments during a stopover in Athens indicate that counterproposals may be included.]

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[Kyprianou, following the presentation of the Cypriot reply in London, will go on to New York to lay the Cyprus issue before the United Nations]

[Makarios told Ambassador Wilkins that he was convinced that, in the present state of public opinion, it would be unwise to send troops from NATO countries to Cyprus and he called for "some other formula" to strengthen the present peace-keeping force on the island]

[He accepted the concept of a mediator, as called for in the Anglo-American proposals, to assist in]

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(Reaching a political settlement, although he appeared puzzled as to how this could be arranged.)

Makarios expressed regret over the anti-NATO, anti-American demonstrations in front of the US Embassy and USIS building in Nicosia on 3 February, but said he felt they were a genuine expression of public feeling. Ambassador Wilkins believes that the demonstrations were organized, and warns that Communist and other unfriendly elements are taking advantage of the present tense situation.

He also notes that the Greek Cypriot community has come to believe that the Anglo-American proposals will lead to partition of Cyprus and that they will be implemented by a force from the NATO countries.

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NOTES

Communist China: Chou En-lai has concluded his tour of Africa and is returning to China for about ten days before visiting Burma, Pakistan, and Ceylon. The break in the premier's itinerary apparently results from cancellation of projected visits to Tanganyika, Kenya, and Uganda. This interval will provide Chou and Foreign Minister Chen Yi, who has accompanied him, with an opportunity to report to Peiping on the impact in Africa of French recognition and to participate in any consultations aimed at working out remaining difficulties over the recognition question.

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DAILY BRIEF

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*Afghanistan: Prime Minister Yusuf may resign shortly because of ill health, [redacted]

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[redacted] In selecting a successor, King Zahir and the cabinet would want to prevent any weakening of the regime in the face of former Prime Minister Daud's continuing opposition activities. Daud has become increasingly outspoken against the proposed new constitution drafted by reform-minded, pro-Western government leaders.]

The Balkans: The winter wheat harvest in Bulgaria, Rumania, and Yugoslavia may be reduced this year because of a drought during the fall planting season and a subsequent lack of adequate snow cover. These countries have planned large increases in agricultural production in 1964, and any setback to these plans may necessitate more purchases of Western wheat.

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